Foreign Tourists in Kashmir

3208. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to popularise Kashmir again for foreign tourists; and

(b) the response received so far during the current season?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) The measures taken to popularise tourism in Kashmir include (a) extending financial assistance to restore tourist attractions and infrastructure facilities, (b) revival of tourism industry through various relief measures, (c) publicity abotit Tourism in J&K etc. During the year 1997-98, the Ministry of Tourism sanctioned financial assistance of Rs. 293.35 lakhs for the implementation of 10 projects including upgradation of Tourist Reception Centres at Srinagar and Jammu, Yatri Niwas at Patnitop, Yatrika at Budha Amarnath, Tourist Huts at Pahalgam and Gulmarg, beautification of Mughal Garden-Shalimar, Srinagar, beautification of Mughal Garden, Nishan, Srinagar and repair and maintenance of chair lift at IISM Gulmarg.

(b) According to estimates available from the State Government, a total of 11185 tourists visited Kashmir Valley during January to May, 1998.

दुर्लभ पर्ययक स्थलों को लोकप्रिय बनाना

3209. **श्री बरजिन्दर सिंह**:
श्री सुखदेव सिंह डिंडसा:
क्या पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की क़ृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में अनेक दर्शानीय, दुर्गम तथा दुर्लभ ऐतिहासिक स्थलों के होने के बावजूद, विदेशी पर्यटकों को इन स्थलों की ओर आकर्षित नहीं किया जा रहा है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने भारतीय संस्कृति तथा सभ्यता के इन दर्शानीय, ऐतिहासिक स्थलों से विश्व को परिचित करवाने के लिए कोई योजना तैयार की है, और

(ग)यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी का ब्यौरा क्या है और इस योजना के अंतर्गत कौन कौन से पर्यटक स्थल शामिल किए गए हैं?

पर्यटन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री ओमाक अपांग): (क) जी, नहीं। वर्ष 1997 के दौरान भारत आए विदेशी पर्यटकों की संख्या में वर्ष 1996 की तुलना में 3.8 प्रतिशत की वृद्वि हुई है।

(ख) और (ग) भारत सरकार, पर्यटन मंत्रालय प्रिंट और इलैक्ट्रानिक मीडिया में विज्ञापनों, ब्रोशरों और वीडियो कैसेटों के माध्यम से सूचनाओं के प्रसार, भारत को जानो, शीर्षक के संगोष्ठियों के आर्योजनों तथा यात्रा विषयक बाजारों में भागीदारी के द्वारा विदेश स्थित अपने 17 पर्यटक कार्यालयों के माध्यम से भारत को एक पर्यटक गंतव्य स्थल के रुप में संवार्धित करने में लगा है। सभी राज्यों/संघ शासित क्षेत्रों के पर्यटक स्थलों को उपभोक्ताओं की जरुरतों के अनुसार मुख्य बाजारों में अवस्थित किया गया है तथा इन स्थानों के साथ साथ भारतीय संस्कृति और सभ्यता को दर्शाने वाले इन ऐतहासिक स्थलों पर पर्यटक आगमन में वृद्वि के लिए वार्षिक आधार पर विपणन योजनाएं बनाई जाती हैं।

Tourism Potential in Hatkoti Area of Himachal Pradesh

3210. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the tourism potential in the Hatkoti area of Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if sd, whether Government will include Durga Hatkoti Temple in Shimla District of Himachal Pradesh for development for tourism purpose;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasoris therefor?

THE MI1>IISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Recognising the tourism potential of Hatkoti area in Himachal Pradesh, the Union Ministry of Tourism provided financial assistance to the State

Government for the construction of a Tourist Complex at Hatkoti and for the illumination of the temple. Both the projects have been completed.

(d) Does not arise.

Development of new Tourist Spots

3211. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on the development of new tourist spots set up during 1996-97 and 1997-98, State-wise;

(b) the number of tourist spots opened during the said peirod, State-wise;

(c) the number of tourist places which proposed to be opened during 1997-98,

(d) the share of the Central and State Governments in the expenditure incurred on the development of new tourist spots; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) to (c) The identification and development of tourist spots is an on-going process and is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Ministry of. Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance to State Governments for the implementation of tourism projects for development of tourist spots on the basis of proposals received, and availability of funds. Details of number of projects and amount sanctioned to State Governments during last two years is given below:—

Year	No. of projects	Amount Sanctioned
1996-97	226	3769.88 lakhs
1997-98	250	4752.96 lakhs

(d) and (e) According to the present guidelines, the Ministry of Tourism extends full assistance to Stat&Union-Territory Governments for construction completion of infrastructure projects like Yatri Niwascs, Tourist Bungalow, Wayside Amenities, Tourist Reception Centres, Adventure Tourism. The State Governments are required to provide land, internal fittings, furnishings, maintenance and approach road. etc. In case of commercially viable projects, the Ministry of Tourism provides equity contribution upto 28% of the total cost.

Tourist Complex in Orissa

3212. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any project proposal from the Government of Orissa during last three years for the construction of Yatri-Niwas, Tourist Bungalows, Tourist Complex etc. for the middle class tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated therefor; and

(d) the specific infrastructural facilities developed or proposed to be provided for the middle class tourists visiting Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) to (d) Based on the proposals received from the State Government, the Union Ministry of Tourism provide financial assistance to the Government of Orissa during the last three years for the implfemen'tation of the following projects for the benefit of the middle class tourists:

Scheme	No. of Projects	Amount sanctioned
		(Rs ./Lakhs)
Tourist Complex/ Lodges	7	140
Tourist Centres	4	80
Tourist Reception Centre	5	230